Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Vernon Arthur Vedvei was born November 4, 1927, to Sam and Andrina Vedvei, on the "Ballou Farm" north of Hetland, South Dakota, joining two sisters, Beatrice and Signe, and a brother, Alec; and,

Whereas, Vernon graduated from Hetland High School in 1945, was inducted into the U.S. Army on January 9, 1946, and was discharged on August 15, 1947; and,

Whereas, Vernon worked as a farm hand for several neighbors until starting his own farming operation in 1951, and he bought his parents' farm north of Lake Preston in 1962; and,

Whereas, Vernon remained a bachelor for many years and enjoyed the lives of his nieces and nephews as if they were his own kids, but upon marrying Joanne Hesby Nelson on June 9, 1974, Vernon inherited another ready-made family of four children who have blessed his life along with two daughters-in-law, a son-in-law, and seven grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Vernon and Joanne lived in Lake Preston for 3 years until moving a new house onto the farm in 1977, where they lived until retirement in 1992; and,

Whereas, Vernon has always enjoyed leisure time spent bowling, playing ping-pong, golfing, and tossing horseshoes, and has found his favorite pastime activity since retirement to be fishing, summer and winter; and,

Whereas, On May 31, 1942, Vernon was confirmed at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Arlington, and in 1987, Vernon and Joanne became charter members of the Calvary Free Lutheran Church in Arlington, South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Vernon will celebrate his 80th birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and family gather to honor him and celebrate his life on November 3, 2007; and it is fitting and proper for me to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate and to recognize him for his many contributions to his family and to this state:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 4, 2007, as

VERNON VEDVEI DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirtieth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State